

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/780,845

Examiner

Ronnie Mancho

Applicant(s)

SCHIFFMANN ET AL.

Art Unit

3663

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/22/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 23-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material


5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____


THOMAS BLACK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 23-31 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claims 23, the applicant's particular system comprising [a processor configured to:

compute a W-plane point representing a square of the range and a square of the product of range and range rate, wherein the W-plane is a two-dimensional Cartesian coordinate system with a first axis representing the square of range and a perpendicular second axis representing the square of the product of range and range rate;

generate a first best-fit W-plane curve from the w-plane points derived from the first sensor and a second best-fit W-plane curve from the W-plane points derived from the second sensor;

calculate a numerical difference between values of the first and second best-fit W-plane curves at a selected value of the square of the product of range and range rate;

derive an estimated target crossing point location along the baseline as a distance from a predetermined point on the baseline, the distance being derived from the numerical difference and a separation distance of the first and second sensors; and

generate a signal based on the estimated crossing point location]... in combination with the other limitations of the claims, was not disclosed by, would not have been obvious over, nor would have been fairly suggested by the prior art of record.

The dependent claims, being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the Specification are also allowed.

Regarding independent claims 28, the applicant's particular system comprising [*a second sensor configured to sense the object in the field of view and provide signals of a second range, defined by the distance between the object and the second sensor and a second range rate thereof, the sensors defining a baseline and the field of view being a common field of view for the first and second sensors; and a processor configured to:*

receive a range signal for the sensed object from the first sensor and a range signal for the sensed object from the second sensor;

filter each range signal with a range tracking filter;

calculate a numerical difference between squares of the filtered values of the range signals from the first and second sensors; and

derive an estimated target crossing point location along the baseline as a distance from a predetermined point on the baseline, the distance being derived from the numerical difference and a separation distance of the first and second sensors; and

generate a signal based on the estimated crossing point location.]... in combination with the other limitations of the claims, was not disclosed by, would not have been obvious over, nor would have been fairly suggested by the prior art of record.

The dependent claims, being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the Specification are also allowed.

The closest prior art, Janky et al (6067031) disclose a similar system, but does not disclose the highlighted limitations above. Thus, the closest prior art fails to anticipate or render Applicant's limitations above obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Communication

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ronnie Mancho whose telephone number is 571-272-6984. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs: 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Keith can be reached on 571-272-6878. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

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like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ronnie Mancho
Examiner
Art Unit 3663

12/18/2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Black', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

THOMAS BLACK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER